THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) to (e) Necessary safety equipments for the staff of ONGC engaged in oil exploration work including safety boots are procured from various sources including Public Sector Undertakings through tenders floated from time to time.

Recommendations of Kaul Committee

1905. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attempts are being made to convert the Oil and Natural Gas Commission into a limited company or companies on the basis of purported recommendations of the P. K. Kaul Committee;

(b) whether on earlier occasions similar committees or committees had not recommended similar action as is now proposed to be taken;

(c) whether Government also propose to refer to any other expert committee to be headed by oil exploration technocrats for advising on this issue before taking final decision in this matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA) : (a) Government have accepted the recommendations of the P. K. Kaul Committee to convert ONGC in o a Public Limited Company under the Companies Act.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Facilities of Drinking Water at various Railway Stations

1906. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that passengers suffer a lot during summer due to lack of drinking water facilities at various railway stations; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to improve this facility for the coming summer season ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. C. LENKA) : (a) and (b) Railways have made drinking water arrangements at all stations. In the summer season at certain stations difficulty may arise some times due to overall reduced availability of water, power cuts and break downs. In order to overcome these problems railways take necessary measures which include review of the water supply arrangements before the onset of summer season and to make the system ready for likely eventualities, transportation of water by rail/road and provision of water trollies and gharas on wheel barrows. Wherever considered necessary, hot weather watermen, in addition to the regular watermen, are also pressed into service during summer.

बड़ी रेल लाइनें बिछाने के लिए गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र को आमंत्रित किया जाना

1907. **श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार बड़ी रेल लाइनें बिछाने से संबंधित काम के लिए गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र को सहभागी बनाने का विचार रखती है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० सी० लेंका (क) : जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Commission charges and interests to Asian Development Bank

1908. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report appeared in